Telephone Facilities in the Village Panchayats of Punjab

17. SHRI IQBAL SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of telephone connections installed in the Panchayat villages in the country, particularly in Punjab during the period from 1990 to 1993 giving the details thereof, State-wise Union-territory-wise/District-Panchayat-wise;

(b) the names of those Panchayats where the telephone facilites are not available in Punjab as on 31st December, 1993; and

(c) what effective measures Government have taken or are proposed to be taken to provide telephone connections in all Panchayat villages in Punjab?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) (i) As on 31-12-93, the No. of Panchayat villages covered with telephones in the country is 1,10,591. Details are given in Statement I *(See* below)

(ii) During the period from April 1990 to December 1993, 6,470 Panchayat villages in Punjab have been covered with telephone facility. Details are given in statement II *(See* below).

(b) 5,273 Panchayat villages in Punjab are not having telephone facility as on 31-12-1993. Selection of these Panchayat villages depends on Technical Feasibility.

(c) All the Panchayat villages in the Punjab are proposed to be provided with reliable telephone facility by 31-03-1995 progressively subject to availability of resources.

Statement-I

Providing Telephone Facility to Panchayat Villages Status as on 31-12-1993.

SI. No.	Circles	Total No. of Panchayat Villages	Panchayat Villages with Tele-phone Facili-ties As on 31.3.91	Achievement 1991-92	Achievement Durin 92-	Achievement Upt Yea r	31.12.9 During the 1993-94
1		2	3	4	5		6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	19533	8231	1903	1961		633
2.	Assam	2485	323	342	555		305
3.	Bihar	11762	3308	1005	1265		632
4.	Gujarat Including Dadra Nagar Haveli	13147	2377	1576	1755		1706
5.	Harayana	5792	1329	1251	981		676
6.	Himachal Pradesh	2597	813	111	205		119
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	1461	347	125	126		033
8.	Karnataka	8335	3373	1068	1207		702
9.	Kerala Including Lakshdweep	982	961	21	All Panchayats Villages covered with telephone facility by March 1992		
10.	Madhya Pradesh	23523	4287	4005	3668		552
11.	Maharashtra Including Goa	24937	4559	3172	2881		1543
12.	North East	4084	176	300	519		217
13.	Orissa	4411	1467	1064	1230		249
14.	Punjab	11743	1029	901	2126		2414
15.	Rajasthan	7562	2448	1287	1811		608
16.	Tamilnadu Including Pondicherry	13288	6682	1160	2157		423

1	2	3	4	5	7
17. Uttar Pradesh	73741	3703	2725	7037	1380
18. West Bengal Including Sikkim & A&N bland	3486	961	601	579	
19. Delhi M.T.N.L.	191	046	136	90	All Panchayat Villages Covered by March 1993.
TOTAL:	233060	46,420	21,752	30.072	12347

The policy regarding Panchayat villages was adapted in the year 1991.

Statement-II

Details of Village Panchayats in Punjab provided with Telephones during April 1990 to December 1993.

Sl. No.	District	Nos. of Gram Panchayat provided with telephone connections
1.	Amritsar	738
2.	Bathinda	270
3.	Mansa	213
4.	Ferozepur	716
5.	Faridkot	252
6.	Hoshiarpur	565
7.	Ropar	122
8.	Jalandhar	719
9.	Kapurthala	130
10.	Ludhiana	575
11.	Gurdaspur	672
12.	Patiala	537
13.	Fatehgarh Sahib	154
14.	Sangrur	705
15.	Chandigarh (U.T.)	103
	TOTAL	6470

Expansion of Telecom Network in the Country

18. SHRI IQBAL SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the telecom network in the country is expected to grow to over 20 million lines by the year 2000 and 60 million lines by the first decade of 21st century;

(b) if so, the details in this regard;

(c) whether Government have provided telephone connections to those persons who had registered the same in the country including in Punjab, as on 31st December, 1993; and

(d) if so, the details thereof, Statewise and city-wise and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) and (b) The telecom, demand projections indicate that telecom network will grow over 20 million lines by 2000 AD, and exceed 48 millions by 2005. Demand projections for the period beyond 2005 AD have not been worked out.

(c) No, Sir

(d) The objective of the current five year plan (1992-97) is to achieve by the end of the plan period

(i) provide telephones practically on demand in rural & tribal areas.

(i) waiting period for telephone connections not to exceed two years in large telephone systems.

The circlewise and citywise programme is chalked out on year to year basis based on these objectives subject to availability of resources.